

# Lhao Vo language

**Lhao Vo**, also known as **Maru** and **Langsu** (Chinese: 浪速, Burmese: လန်စု, is a Burmish language of Burma with a few thousand speakers in China.

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## Distribution

Dai Qingxia (2005:3) reports 5,600 Langsu speakers in China. Many thousands more are dispersed across the eastern edge of Kachin State, Burma.

- Luxi City: Yingpan Township ယင်းဖန်မြို့နယ် 营盘乡
- Lianghe County: Mengyang Township မယ်ညွန့်နယ် 养乡
- Longchuan County: Bangwai Township ဖန်ဝိုင်မြို့နယ် 邦外乡 and Jingkan Township ကျင်ခန်မြို့နယ် 景坎乡

The Langsu people call themselves ၼံၼ် ၼံၼ် (Chinese: *Lang'e* 浪峨) (Dai 2003:3; Dai 2010:10)<sup>[3]</sup>

## Varieties

The standard Lhaovo dialect is that of the Dago’ (*tăkoʔ*) hill area, on the east side of N'Mai River valley in Kachin State.<sup>[4]</sup>

Sawada (2017) lists the following patois (subvarieties) of Lhaovo.<sup>[4]</sup>

- Gyanno’** (autonym: *kjɛn 1noʔ J*): spoken in the west side of the N'Mai River in Sawlaw Township.
- Tho’lhang** (autonym: *tʰaʔ Jloʔ J*): spoken in Htawlang and a few other villages in northern Sawlaw Township.
- Lakin** (autonym: *lăkɛ J*): spoken in Lakin village, northern Sawlaw Township.

Lhao Vo	
Lhao Vo	
Native to	Myanmar, China
Native speakers	100,000 (1997) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	<div>Sino-Tibetan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(Tibeto-Burman)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lolo–Burmese<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Burmish<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maruic<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Lhao Vo</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	mhx
Glottolog	maru1249 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/maru1249) <sup>[2]</sup>

- **Lhangsu** (autonym: *l̥əŋ ʏsu ʏ*; not the same as Langsu 浪速 of Yunnan): spoken in the area between Hkrang Hka and Sanin Hka, which are two tributaries of the Mali Hka. It is spoken in Sumprabum Township, including in the villages of *Hting Tsa*, *N-gawk Hkyet*, and *Ma Awng*.

## Langsong

The Langsong 浪宋 are found in Zaoyang 早阳<sup>[5]</sup> in Yunlong County (in the Chinese province of Yunnan) as well as in Baocun 表村,<sup>[6]</sup> Laomo 老末, and Sancha 三岔.<sup>[7][8]</sup> They reportedly speak a highly endangered language that may be possibly related to Langsu.

## References

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1. Lhao Vo (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/mhx/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Maru" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/maru1249>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Dai Qingxia [戴庆厦] (2010). *The Chashan people of Pianma and their language* [片马茶山人及其语言]. Beijing: The Commercial Press [商务印书馆].
4. Sawada, Hideo. 2017. *Two Undescribed Dialects of Northern Burmish Sub-branch: Gyanno? and Tho?lhang*. Presented at ICSTLL 50, Beijing, China.
5. <http://www.ynszxc.gov.cn/villagePage/vdefault.aspx?departmentid=60920>
6. <http://www.ynszxc.gov.cn/villagePage/vIndex.aspx?departmentid=37739>
7. <http://www.ynszxc.gov.cn/villagePage/vIndex.aspx?departmentid=37740>
8. 中国少数民族社会历史调查资料丛刊修订编辑委员会. 2009. 景颇族社会历史调查, p.57. Beijing: Minzu Chubanshe.

## Further reading

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- 戴 Dai, 慶厦 Qingxia (2005). *浪速语研究 Langsu Yanjiu* [Study of the Maru Language] (in Chinese). Beijing: 民族出版社 Minzu Chubanshe. ISBN 9787105068159.
- Hill, Nathan, & Cooper, Douglas. (2020). A machine readable collection of lexical data on the Burmish languages [Data set]. Zenodo. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3759030>
- Yabu Shirō 藪 司郎 (1988). "A preliminary report on the study of the Maru, Lashi and Atsi languages of Burma." Yoshiaki Ishizawa (ed.), *Historical and cultural studies in Burma*, 65-132. Tokyo: Institute of Asian Studies, Sophia University.

## External links

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- Consonant Ear Training and Tones (<http://hdl.handle.net/10106/5598>)
- Maru fieldwork of John Okell from 1969 (<https://digital.soas.ac.uk/maru>)
- Lhaovo language site (<http://www.lhaovo.co>)

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